

INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTION THAT THE PRESIDENT IS REQUIRED TO OBTAIN IN ADVANCE SPECIFIC STATUTORY AUTHORIZATION FOR THE USE OF U.S. ARMED FORCES IN RESPONSE TO CIVIL UNREST IN LIBYA

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 15, 2011

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to introduce a resolution expressing the sense of the Congress that the President is required to obtain in advance specific statutory authorization for the use of United States Armed Forces in response to civil unrest in Libya. As many in the administration, Congress, and elsewhere clamor for the President to initiate military action to support those seeking to overthrow the Libyan regime, Congress sits by, as usual, pretending that Article I, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution does not exist. According to this long-ignored section, "The Congress shall have Power To declare War, grant Letters of Marque and Reprisal, and make Rules concerning Captures on Land and Water."

This is black letter law, not some aspirational statement by our Founders. Their intent was indisputably clear: Congress alone, not the Executive Branch, has the authority and the obligation to declare war if hostilities are to be initiated against a foreign state that has not attacked the United States.

Let us be clear about one thing: for the U.S. to take action to establish a "no fly" zone over all or part of Libya would constitute an act of war against Libya. For the U.S. to establish any kind of military presence on the sovereign territory, waters, or over the airspace of Libya is to engage in a hostile action that requires Congressional authorization.

Whatever we may think about the Gaddafi regime, we must recognize that this is a coup d'etat in a foreign country. What moral right do we have to initiate military action against Libya? Libya has not attacked the United States. Neither the coup leaders nor the regime pose an imminent threat to the United States and therefore, as much as we abhor violence and loss of life, this is simply none of our business.

I would remind my colleagues that we have been here before. In the 1990s we established "no fly" zones and all manner of sanctions against Saddam Hussein's regime in Iraq in an attempt to force him from power. When that did not work—at a high cost in Iraqi lives—the U.S. ultimately went to war to achieve these ends. The costs of this war, I do not need to remind my colleague; was much higher even, in U.S. military lives, in Iraqi civilian lives, in our diminished moral standing in the world, in our economy. Yet none of us seem able to learn from an enormous mistake made only a few years ago. Once again a bad man is doing bad things thousands of miles away and once again irresponsible voices are demanding that the U.S. "do something" about it. Will we ever learn? We continue to act as the policemen of the world at our own peril, and as we continue we only accelerate our economic collapse.

Let the supporters of yet another war in the Middle East come forth to make their case for a U.S. attack against Libya. I will strongly op-

pose such a move, but it should be very clear that if a war against Libya is to be initiated it must be declared by the proper Constitutional authority: the U.S. Congress.

A TRIBUTE TO DR. CHINWE OKONKWO

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 15, 2011

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Dr. Chinwe Okonkwo.

Dr. Chinwe Okonkwo is board certified (and re-certified until 2018) in Internal Medicine. She is the Medical Director of Tina Medical PC, at 8925 Flatlands Ave., and Rutland Medical Plaza, in Brooklyn. She remains affiliated with and actively treats patients at New York Methodist Hospital, Brookdale University Hospital, Brooklyn's Kingsbrook Jewish Medical Center, and two Long Island hospitals: Good Samaritan Hospital and Southside Hospital.

Dr. Chinwe Okonkwo is experienced in both Medical and Epidemiological Research. She was one of the research investigators that participated in Blood Pressure Research on longitudinal observational study of blood pressure success. She also participated in a research program focusing on migraine headaches, helping to bring powerful migraine headache medication from Europe to the United States as part of the research investigation in 2003.

Dr. Okonkwo received numerous awards: a Certificate of Medical Achievement Awards by the Medical Society of the County of Kings Inc.; the Academy of Medicine of Brooklyn; State of New York Executive Chamber, Certificate of Recognition by Governor David Paterson; the New York State Senate 22nd District Certificate of Medical Achievement Award; the New York State Assembly Certificate of Medical Merit Award; the Kingsbrook Jewish Hospital's President's Award; the prestigious Family Service Network of New York Award; and the Strathmore's Lifetime Professional Membership Award, from 2004 to the present. She was also awarded one of America's Registry's Top 10 Members in HealthCare Profession by America's Registry of Outstanding Professionals 2009 to present. In light of this award, she participated in skilled training programs with the World Health Organization ("WHO") in the areas of Family Planning, Counseling and Management in Nigeria; in 1998, she was awarded a Certificate of Achievement by the Medical Director of WHO from the United States. She also played an essential role in establishing several rural medical centers for the poor in the Enugu State of Nigeria from 1986 to 1990, when she relocated to the United States for further education.

Dr. Okonkwo has more than 24 years of medical experience. She has lived, worked and been involved with the families of Brooklyn for the past 20 years. In spite of her hectic schedule, Dr. Chinwe Okonkwo remains a dedicated and family-centered mother and wife. She is also the CEO/Founder of Hope Outreach Inc, a not for profit 501(c)(3).

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing the life of Dr. Chinwe Okonkwo.

IN HONOR OF THE 163RD ANNIVERSARY OF THE 1848-1849 HUNGARIAN REVOLUTION

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 15, 2011

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the 163rd Anniversary of the 1848-1849 Hungarian Revolution and the valiant contribution of the Hungarian people to those efforts. The European revolutions of 1848-1849, known as the "Spring of Nations," will always remind us that independence, self-rule, and democracy can never be permanently extinguished in any society.

The year 1848 marked a momentous occasion for the nations of Europe. All across the continent, oppressed people rose up to attempt to secure their liberty and freedom. The people of Hungary followed suit and attempted to overthrow the oppressors in the Habsburg monarchy.

March 15th marked the day that the Hungarians made their stand. They marched, collectively as Hungarians, to demand their rights. In solidarity, they marched and demonstrated until their ruling governors had no choice, but to relinquish to them their freedom and liberty.

Today, we see Hungary as a regional success story for democracy and civil society. This eventual, if delayed, victory shows us that though the road to democracy is not always an easy one, the spirit of people will ultimately prevail in the determined march toward democracy.

Mr. Speaker and Colleagues, please join me in honoring the values of freedom, independence, and democracy that the Hungarians demanded in 1848. The Hungarian Revolution of 1848 stands as a reminder and inspiration of the undying desire of any society to be free and independent.

CONGRATULATING THE NEOSHO, MISSOURI, HIGH SCHOOL WRESTLING TEAM

HON. BILLY LONG

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 15, 2011

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Neosho High School Wrestling Team for winning the Missouri Class 3 State Championship.

One might not think of a team when you think of wrestling, but wrestling is a team sport. These young champions, River Buttram, Tanner Schaack, Nate Rodriguez, Trevor Hughes, Paxon Fowler, Rimo Elwise, Carter Boatright, Ethan Pogue, Payne Hatter, Chase Espinosa, Blake Stauffer, Dallas Smith, Matt Millard, and Riley Plew are a team. They trained as one, they competed as one, and together though their hard work and dedication they won the Missouri Class 3 State Championship.

Of course, the wrestlers aren't the only champions; they had an outstanding team of talented coaches supporting them and guiding them along the way. I commend Head Coach Jeremy Phillips and assistant coaches Cody